

REMARKS

This application is a divisional of application No. 09/606,522, which was filed on June 30, 2003.

Claims 44-63 are now pending in this application, with Claims 44, 46, 48, 50 and 61 and being independent. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended the specification, canceled Claims 1-43, and added new Claims 44-63. No new matter has been added. The changes to the specification are changes that were previously made in the parent application.

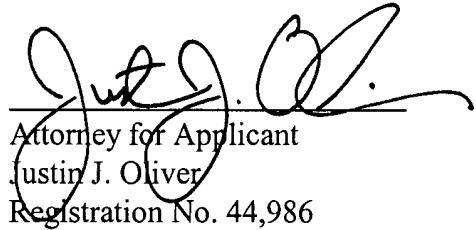
Applicant claims priority to Japanese Patent Application Nos. 11-187678, filed July 1, 1999, and 2000-042600, filed February 21, 2000. Certified copies of the priority documents were filed in the parent application on November 20, 2000. Applicant respectfully requests acknowledgment of the receipt those documents.

Also, Applicant has enclosed a copy of the Assignment and accompanying transmittal filed in the parent application. Those papers were recorded by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on November 20, 2000, at Reel 011301, Frame 0614.

Applicant respectfully requests favorable consideration of the present application and early passage to issue thereof.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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